

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3835 because of the negative cost it puts on the backs of our federal public servants. At a time when Congress must make tough budget choices, I fully support a freeze on the salary of Members of Congress. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3858, a clean bill that would freeze Congressional pay.

However, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are playing politics with the federal workforce. It is shameful that some of my colleagues want to blame the federal workforce for our country's problems and to make them pay the cost for climbing out of the recession. These hard working men and women provide vital operational support to our military members; ensure our senior citizens receive their Social Security checks; protect our borders; ensure the safety of our environment, food, and water; treat our wounded veterans; and research cures for cancer and other deadly diseases.

The Federal Government is our country's largest employer, providing jobs to about 2 million civilian employees. Roughly 85 percent of the federal workforce is located outside the metro Washington, DC area. These federal families are facing the same economic challenges as families across America. Federal workers already are subject to a two year pay freeze that will save more than \$60 billion over the next decade. An additional third year of pay freezes on federal employee salaries as proposed in today's legislation further undermines the federal government's ability to attract and retain the highest talent. It also threatens to close the pipeline of new talent moving up the federal civil service. A report from the Partnership for Public Service highlighted that employees with high-demand skills are those most likely to have alternative employment options.

Until we have the opportunity for a clean vote, I must urge a no vote on H.R. 3835, legislation that places too much cost on the federal workforce.

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in February 2010, 23 year old Alissa Blanton was shot and killed by her stalker.

He began harassing her two years earlier when she worked as a waitress.

The situation became so severe that Alissa had to quit her job in order to get away from this customer who would not leave her alone.

Even after changing jobs, moving twice, and getting married, she was still followed and sent threatening emails and letters.

She was murdered in front of her husband two weeks after being denied a protective order.

Sadly, this story of constant harassment and stalking is not infrequent in our society.

One in six women is stalked in her lifetime. If the perpetrator is not stopped, these situations can lead to murder.

January marked National Stalking Awareness Month.

We remember those affected and recognize the importance of becoming more aware of this crime in order to protect ourselves and those around us.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Onondaga Community College for 50 years of service to the Central New York community.

In 1961, Onondaga Community College board of trustees met to plan the college's upcoming first academic year. Though board members had originally planned to enroll 450 students in the first year, nearly 1,300 students enrolled, indicating the need for accessible higher education in Central New York.

During its first years, Onondaga Community College was located in downtown Syracuse at Midtown Plaza. By 1973, the college had moved to Onondaga Hill, where a newly constructed campus would house over 5,000 students.

Over the years, Onondaga Community College has increased its size, growing 65 percent from 2000 to 2010 alone. The college now hosts over 12,000 students, 1,700 faculty, and nearly 50 associate degree and certificate programs.

The Onondaga Hill campus has grown to include several academic buildings, residence halls, and a newly constructed arena that will host sporting and entertainment events for the college, as well as the Central New York community.

Today, under the leadership of President Debbie Sydow, Onondaga Community College has become one of the Nation's fastest-growing community colleges, providing affordable, high quality education to thousands of students.

I thank Onondaga Community College for its dedicated service to the community and I am

proud to honor the college upon the occasion of celebrating 50 years of excellence in higher education.

HONORING CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU 100TH ANNIVERSARY

REP. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of an important community service organization in Champaign, Illinois.

The Champaign County Farm Bureau was founded in 1913 and has grown into a vital element of all Champaign County farmers. For the past 100 years, the Champaign County Farm Bureau, like farm bureaus everywhere, has brought together farmers across the county to discuss ways to band together to keep agriculture profitable. Not only are they teaching the importance of agriculture to the county but also the nation. I applaud the willingness of the Champaign County Farm Bureau for stepping forward and showing how modern agriculture is feeding the world today.

The Champaign County Farm Bureau provides critical information to its truly visionary farmers in the county and in the halls of government here in Washington and in our great State of Illinois. But their efforts don't stop there; they understand the importance of talking and discussing with consumers where their food comes from. They impress upon those they meet that United States' farmers produce the safest, most reliable, and most affordable food supply in the world!

I believe that the mission statement of the Champaign County Farm Bureau says it all: They will strive to assist families in agriculture by recognizing and responding to issues of concern while strengthening partnerships and improving farm family life for this and future generations.

I want to congratulate President Watson, Manager Uken and all the members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau, past and present, on celebrating their 100th anniversary. I want to join with the other Members of this House in wishing them continued success for another 100 years and beyond.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE KA'U COAST PRESERVATION ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ka'u Coast Preservation Act, a bill directing the National Park Service to assess the feasibility of designating coastal

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